

REMARKS

Claims 43 and 49 are amended, no claims are canceled, and claims 70-88 are added; as a result, claims 43-67 and 70-88 are now pending in this application.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses. Applicant submits that claim 43 is definite under §112. Applicant also amends claim 43 to clarify it. Reconsideration of claim 43 and dependent claims 44-48 is requested.

Claims 49-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses and amends claim 49 to clarify same. Applicant submits that the claims 49-54 are enabled by Fig. 2 and the specification, at least at pages 6 and 7. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 43-54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoang (U.S. Patent No. 5,970,022). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Anticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration. *In re Dillon* 919 F.2d 688, 16 USPQ2d 1897, 1908 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (en banc), cert. denied, 500 U.S. 904 (1991).

Claim 43 recites, in part “an input adapted to receive at least one input signal, the at least one input signal including a sense amplifier isolation signal.” Applicant cannot find where Hoang teaches that its timing circuit 132, 232 (Figs. 3 and 4) receives a sense amplifier isolation signal. As Hoang does not teach this feature, applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 43-48.

Claims 49 recites, in part "the at least one input signal including a sense amplifier isolation signal connected to a sense amplifier for a second memory array." Applicant cannot find where Hoang teaches that its timing circuit 132, 232 (Figs. 3 and 4) receives a sense a sense amplifier isolation signal. As Hoang does not teach this feature, applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 49-54.

New Claims

Claims 70-88 are added. Consideration of these claims is requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9587 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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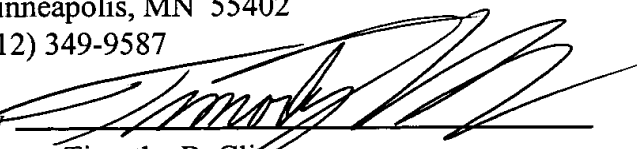
By their Representatives,

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14 Nov 2002

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 14 day of November, 2002.

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